

# The Democratic Pioneer.

TRUTH, JUSTICE AND THE CONSTITUTION.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 20, 1858.

NO. 37.

DL. 8.

## DEMOCRATIC PIONEER.

GODWIN & CO.,  
PROPRIETORS.

PRINTED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING.

TERMS.  
One year, \$2 50  
Six months, \$1 50  
Three months, \$1 00  
One month, \$25 00

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For 10 lines or less, first insertion  
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PERSONAL CARDS.  
JAMES E. LOWTHER,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
GATEWAY, N. C.

ALL the Courts of Gates, Hert  
and Chowan, Perquimans and Pasquo  
notary for the above counties since  
Jan 24

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ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

Practice in the County Courts of  
Gates, Hert, Northampton and Pasquo  
notary. Particular attention paid to  
all business entrusted to him with  
promptness and ready attention and scrupulous  
accuracy of references can be given.

W. A. GODWIN,  
DENTAL SURGEON.

THE PRACTICE OF HIS PRO  
fession in his rooms, over the store of C.  
W. GODWIN, N. C.

THOS. W. UPSHUR,  
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## POETRY.

### UNHAPPY JOHN.

BY DR. CHARLES M'KAY.

Unhappy John doubts woman's truth,  
And vows true love is dead and gone—  
Why? He was jilted in his youth.  
A false fair maid abandoned John:  
Because he found one cankered peach,  
All fruit are worthless in his eyes.  
Come forth, ye gentle souls, and teach  
The selfish craven how he lies;  
Come forth, ye ladies, bright and fair,  
Point at him your reproving hands,  
And let your eyes, your truth declare,  
And shame him where he stands.

Unhappy John is sick of schemes;  
He doubts the use of striving on;  
Why?—Something is amiss, it seems,  
And failure has disheartened John;  
He moans in pitiful distress,  
Because his projects topple down—  
Come forth, ye masters of success,  
Ye builders of your own renown,  
Who dig the mine or fell the oak;  
Show him your hard and blistered hands,  
Tell him the worth of stroke or blow,  
And shame him where he stands.

Unhappy John distrusts his kind;  
He gives the world his mansion;  
Why?—He was somewhat weak and blind,  
And a false rogue defrauded John.  
He thinks man's nature is right,  
If he be cheated of his self—  
Come forth, true souls, and in your light  
Depict the bigot to himself,  
Come forth, ye generous and good,  
With softest hearts and liberal hands,  
Show him the face of brotherhood,  
And shame him where he stands.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### HOW TWO HOUSEHOLDS BECAME ONE.

Mrs. Benson was fat, fair and forty-four, when her husband, a soap-biller in a very good circumstance, was called from his life task of contributing to the general purification of mankind. Mrs. Benson took refuge from his grief in a pretty cottage, situated on the principal street of the town of G—.

At first, she was inconsolable, as she used to say, with a solemn emphasis, which carried conviction to the hearts of her neighbors; that nothing but the thoughts of her daughter Florence would have prevented her from terminating her existence by the intervention of a poison.

Mr. Benson was, in no small measure, indebted to her daughter—since in less than three months, she threw aside her mourning, and became as lively as ever.

Touching Florence, she had now reached the mature age of nineteen, and began to think herself marriageable. She was quite pretty, and tolerably well accomplished, so that her wishes in that respect were very soon likely to be fulfilled.

Just over the way lived Squire Markham, the village lawyer, just verging upon fifty, with his son Charles, who was about half his age. Being a young man of agreeable exterior, the latter was quite a favorite among the young ladies in the neighborhood, and considered in common parlance, a "catch." As yet, however, his affections had never been seriously engaged, and might have remained so, had it not been for the sudden apparition, one morning of Florence Benson riding by on a horseback.

It struck him at once that she was remarkably graceful, and really quite pretty. Thereupon he cultivated her acquaintance with increasing assiduity, and after a while asked the fatal question.

Florence answered in the affirmative; and instead of referring him dutifully to her mother, hinted (using a romantic young lady's language) it would be to steal away to the next town and get married without anybody being the wiser.

Charles Markham caught at this hint, which chimed with his own temperance, and he resolved to adopt it.

In order that it might be carried out with perfect success, it was resolved to seem indifferent to each other, until the day fixed, in order to ward off any suspicion which might otherwise be aroused.

So well were all these arrangements carried out, that Mrs. Benson had no suspicion of what was going on.

Not so with Squire Markham. He had obtained a clue to the affair in some manner, so that he had not only discovered the fact of the elopement, but even the very day on which it was to occur.

What this mysterious it was, we will leave the reader to infer from his very next movement. Ringing the bell, he inquired of the servant:

"Is Charles at home?"

"No, sir," was the reply, "he went out this morning, and will be gone all day."

"Humph! That'll do. So much the better for my purpose," thought he, when left alone. "Now I shall have the ground left to myself. Let me see; the rascal intends running away next Thursday evening, and to-day is Monday. Nothing like striking while the iron is hot. I'll write to her in his name, telling her that I have altered my mind and will go just at dark to-morrow night. She won't suspect anything until the knot is tied, and then what a laugh we shall have!"

Squire Markham did not consider that it might make a little difference with the bride expectant. He considered it a capital joke on his son, and looked no further. He accordingly drew his writing materials towards him and indited the following epistle:

"DEAREST FLORENCE: I find the day fixed for our elopement on some accounts objectionable and would like with your permission, to substitute to-morrow evening. If I hear nothing from you, I shall infer that you assent to this arrangement. I shall have a carriage in readiness under the old oak tree, at half past eight o'clock. You can walk there without attracting suspicion, and as there will be no moon, we shall be able to carry out our plans without fear of discovery. I am happy to say that the governor doesn't suspect in the least that a daughter in law is in the house for him. Won't he be charming? Your devoted CHARLEY."

So saying, he sealed it up and sent it over by a little Irish boy in his employment, having first marked "private" in the corner.

"Dear fellow, Mark, to give it to Miss Benson, and don't let any one else see it," was the ringing injunction.

Mrs. Benson was sitting in her quiet parlor, reading her evening paper, when she saw a letter from her daughter, which she opened, and found it was from her father. She was quite startled, and she looked at the letter with a mixture of surprise and alarm.

"Please, ma'am," said he, holding out the missive, "a letter for Miss Benson, and it's very particular that nobody else should see it."

The air of mystery conveyed in this characteristic address, aroused Mrs. Benson's curiosity, especially when she observed that it was addressed to her daughter, and not to herself as she first supposed. She returned to the parlor—not to read Harpers Magazine, that had lost its attractions.

"What in the world can it be," she thought, "that they should be so secret about it?—Can Florence be carrying on a clandestine correspondence? It may be something that I ought to know!"

Stimulated by her feminine curiosity, Mrs. Benson speedily concluded that she would be false to the responsibilities of a parent if she did not, unravel the mystery.

"I think," said she, "I will open it, and if it should be anything particular, I can easily re-see it, and Florence will still be none the wiser."

This she accordingly did. What was her astonishment when the plan of elopement was discovered to her!

"Here's pretty doings!" she exclaimed, as soon as she could recover breath. "So Florence was going to run away and get married to that Charles Markham, without so much as hinting a word to me!"

She leaned her head upon her hand and began to consider. She was naturally led to think of her own marriage with the late Mr. Benson, and the happiness of her wedded life, and she could not help heaving a sigh at the recollection.

"Am I always to seem in such solitary?" she thought. "I've half a mind now to show this letter to Florence, but to run away with Charles to-morrow night on my own account. It's odd if I can't persuade him that the matter is as good as the daughter's, and she glowed complacently at the still attractive face and form reflected from the mirror.

Just then she heard the door open, and Florence entered. She quickly crumpled up the letter and thrust it into her pocket. Florence and Charles did not meet during the succeeding day; chiefly in pursuance of the plan they had agreed to, in order to avoid suspicion.

Squire Markham acted in an exceedingly strange manner, to his son's thinking. Occasionally he would burst into a hearty laugh, which he would endeavor to repress, and race up and down the room, as if to walk off some of his superabundant hilarity.

"What's in the wind?" thought Charles to himself. "It can't be the governor's getting crazy? Something was the matter beyond a doubt. But what it really was, he had not the faintest conjecture."

At the hour specified, the Squire had his carriage drawn up at the appointed rendezvous. He began to peer anxiously in the dark for Florence. At length a female form, well-dressed, made its appearance. Thinking her in a very low whisper, lest it might be suspected that he was the wrong person, he helped her into the carriage and drove off. Their destination was the house of the Justice of the Peace, residing at the distance of some eight miles.

During the first of this journey nothing was said. Both parties were desirous of

appealing their identity. At length, Squire Markham, considering that after all he could not marry the lady without her consent, and that discovery must be made before the marriage, decided to reveal himself, and then urge his own suit as well as he might.

"My dear Miss Florence," he continued, in his natural voice.

"Why?" shrieked the lady, "I thought it was Charles!"

"And I," said Squire Markham, recognizing Mrs. Benson's voice with astonishment, "thought it was Florence!"

Was it you, sir, who was arranged to elope with my daughter?"

"No, but I concluded it was you, ma'am who was meaning to elope with my son!"

"Indeed, Squire Markham, you are wrong; the affair coming incidentally to my knowledge, I concluded to take her peace secretly, in order to frustrate her plans."

"Equal! the very idea I had myself," said the Squire, laughing; "but the fact is, we're both of us been confoundedly sold; and the mischief of it is, I left a letter for Charles letting him know; so undoubtedly he will take the opportunity to run off with Florence during our absence, and plume himself, the rascal, on the way in which I was taken in."

"I confess that I left a note for Florence, to the same purport. How she will laugh at me! what an embarrassment!"

"I'll tell you what," said the Squire, after a moment's pause, "we can carry out with the intention of getting married. Why marry each other, and then, you know, we can make them believe we had it in view all along, and only intended to frighten them?"

Mrs. Benson assented with a little urging, and in the course of an hour, the twins were made one. They immediately returned, but found, as they anticipated, that Florence and Charles, on discovering their departure, had then lives stopped off in a different direction, with a similar intent.

They made their appearance the next morning, prepared to laugh heartily at the frustrated plans of their parents, but learned with no little astonishment that they had struck up a bargain for themselves. Squire Markham and his new wife had the address to convince them that it was all a premeditated plan; and to this day, the younger pair are ignorant of the plot and counter plot, which led to this double union of the two households.

## A TRADE A FORTUNE.

If parents would consider the welfare and happiness of their children, they would close the virtuous mechanic, farmer or honest trader, as companions and helpmates, instead of the rich, who, aside from their income have no means of subsistence.

How often does this question arise, and from religious parents, too in choosing companions and suitors for their daughters.

"Is he rich?" If the daughter answers, "Yes he is rich, he is a gentleman, next in his dress, and can live without work," the parents are pleased.

Not many years ago, a young lady of plebeian birth, but of extraordinary beauty and accomplishments, won the affections of a young nobleman, who, having her consent, solicited her from her father in marriage and was refused. We may easily imagine the astonishment of the nobleman.

"Am I not," said he, "of sufficient rank to aspire to your daughter's hand?"

"You are undoubtedly of the best blood of Poland."

"And my fortune and reputation, are they not?"

"Your estate is magnificent, and your conduct irreproachable."

"Then having your daughter's consent, how should I expect a refusal?"

"This, sir," the father replied, "is my only child, and her happiness is the chief concern of my life. All the possessions of fortune are precarious; what fortune gives at her caprice she takes away. I see now, living for the independence and comfortable living of a wife but one; in a word, I am resolved that no one shall be the husband of my daughter who is not at the same time master of a trade!"

The nobleman bowed, and retired silently. A year or two after, the father was sitting at the door, and saw approaching the house, a young man laden with baskets and at the head of the cavalcade a person in the dress of a basket maker. And who do you suppose it was? The former suitor of his daughter—the nobleman turned basket maker. He was now master of a trade, and brought the wares made by his own hands for sale, and a card from his employer in testimony of his skill.

The condition being fulfilled, no further obstacle was opposed to the marriage. But the story is not yet done. The Revolution came—fortunes were plundered—and lords were scattered as chaff before the four winds of heaven. Kings became beggars—some of them teachers—and the noble Pole supported his wife and her father in the infirmities of old age, by his basket making industry.

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## THE WONDERS AND THE TRIALS OF SCIENCE.

The Albany correspondent of the New York Courier writes thus:

It is surprising what sacrifices men will make in the pursuit of scientific work. I found the rooms of the State Taxidermist, Mr. Hurst, of the most interesting in the State Hall. Here, in the midst of the most deadly of poisons, his labors are continued. It is a work which admits of no cessation when it is commenced. The preservation of the specimen, to be well done, must be immediate. It is a fight between decay and the mineral, most active for death—most powerful against the grave. When Mr. Hurst took the great mouse, which is the pride of the collection, he remained in his room for twenty-one days, never leaving it for food or sleep, watching his strength only by the brief interval of a parenthetical luncheon or nap. The first monarch was to be continued in all the form of life, and the hand of Science was to win that result by daring the use of the power which is of such tenfold potency when not under guard.

The Taxidermist's art as it is illustrated in the skill of Mr. Hurst, has accomplished that which the priests and cunning men of Ancient Egypt never wrought. He has proved that the very body of the dead may be kept in all the semblance of life—no shrivelling, blackened, frightful mummy, but the form, the rounded outline, the position in which the soul moved during its life. All the possessions of fortune are precarious; what fortune gives at her caprice she takes away. I see now, living for the independence and comfortable living of a wife but one; in a word, I am resolved that no one shall be the husband of my daughter who is not at the same time master of a trade!

The nobleman bowed, and retired silently. A year or two after, the father was sitting at the door, and saw approaching the house, a young man laden with baskets and at the head of the cavalcade a person in the dress of a basket maker. And who do you suppose it was? The former suitor of his daughter—the nobleman turned basket maker. He was now master of a trade, and brought the wares made by his own hands for sale, and a card from his employer in testimony of his skill.

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# Democratic Pioneer.



J. B. GODWIN, Editor.

ELIZABETH CITY:

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 20, 1858.

FOR GOVERNOR:  
**JOHN W. ELLIS,**  
OF ROWAN COUNTY.

OUR NOMINEE.

At the head of our columns this morning stands the name of the Hon. J. W. ELLIS, as our candidate for the Governorship of North Carolina. The State Convention has designated him as the man of their choice, and we hail the selection with no ordinary feelings of satisfaction. Whilst we were prepared to support zealously either of the distinguished gentlemen, aspirants for the honor, he was our first choice, for reasons which we have freely expressed, and which it is unnecessary to repeat. The contest was then with friends; it is now with our enemies. We imagine, however, this will be but a small affair. We believe that very many of our "American" friends, between Judge Ellis and Mr. McRae, will prefer the former. Indeed we have heard expressions of this character, and we hesitate not to say, that there are thousands in the State who entertain the same sentiments. A disorganizer cannot command their confidence, and they will not vote for any such upon an impracticable idea. To the Democratic party, the nomination will be a most acceptable one. Those who would have preferred another, have no fault to find with Judge Ellis. They will go into the canvass with a zeal and purpose worthy of the cause, and the triumph will be an overwhelming one. J. W. Ellis will be the next Governor of North Carolina.

H. W. MILLER, ESQ.,

The manly and patriotic letter recently written by Mr. Miller, in which he avows his determination—for reasons the best that could be given—to support the administration of Mr. Buchanan and to co-operate with the Democratic party, has caused the Know Nothing press to open their batteries upon him. He is already denounced as a "traitor," and being actuated by a "base ambition." The *Wil. Herald* accounts for the charge in his views by supposing him to have an eye upon the U. States Senate. It says the Democracy are "in the habit of rewarding traitors," hence Mr. Miller's course. The charge of rewarding traitors comes with a bad grace from a paper who at this time is engaged in supporting for the gubernatorial chair, a renegade, we will not say traitor, though we might use the term with more propriety than does our contemporary of the *Herald*—Democrat. It is indeed a strange accusation for advocates of Duncan McRae to bring. "Rewarding traitors!" That will do friend Burr.

Our Charlotte correspondence contains the Platform adopted by the Democratic State Convention. It is a plain, straight forward expression of opinions, and will be heartily endorsed by every Democrat in the State. It speaks of Mr. Buchanan in a way to find an echo throughout the State, and gives to our own Executive, Gov. Bragg, the meed of praise so justly his due. The internal improvement question is met fairly and boldly—advocating appropriations to works already in progress of construction, and recommending assistance to new ones when it will not impose onerous or unjust burdens upon any section. Unequivocal opposition is declared to any scheme of distribution, and the public lands are to be retained for the purposes of the federal government. We have not the time to notice the Platform further at present, but will do so at some future time.

We notice with sincere pleasure the industry and enterprise manifested by some of our citizens, sufferers by the late fire, in pushing forward their building operations. Mr. Henry Culpepper has already the frame of his building up and partly closed in. Mr. Abel Roberts also has the frame up. The foundation of a large ware house is laid by C. M. Lavery, and the masons are busily employed in carrying up the walls of two spacious stores for J. W. Hinton and J. J. Grandy. The brick stores of Messrs. White & Lavery, W. B. Burgess, T. D. Knox, we understand will soon be commenced. It will not be long before the last trace of the sad visitation will cease to exist.

**Cash System.**—Hereafter all job-work done in this office will be cash on delivery. This system is generally carried out by all newspapers published, and our interest and convenience render it necessary for us to pursue the same course. It is unpleasant for us to *owe* our patrons, and they are hardly willing to have such trivial accounts entered on our books. We hope the above is a sufficient warning to persons having work of this kind done at the Pioneer office.

The Sentinel never undertook to endorse the action of the 22 elected National Democrats that voted against the Lecompton Constitution but did take the ground that the Hon. John A. Gilmer did right to vote against the Kansas fraud and why did we say, and why do we say so now? For these reasons: Mr. Gilmer saw the trick that the administration party was playing in striking out the only feature in the bill that the South was in favor of, thereby trying to force Kansas upon the South with her two U. S. Senators and one Representative, all of the free-soil stripe, for if Kansas had been admitted, in less than six months the slavery clause would have been stricken from her Constitution, by her Free-Soil Legislature, and she would have taken her position with the other free States of this Union. Mr. Gilmer and five others of the American party seeing this, were determined not to lend their aid in carrying through such a detestable scheme.—*Sentinel*.

The above is intended as a reply to our question in last week's Pioneer. The *Sentinel* denies having endorsed the action of the anti-Lecompton Democrats. That paper said that the Crittenden amendment was everything it should be. That amendment was introduced by an anti-Lecompton democrat—Mr. Montgomery, and voted for by the remaining twenty-one. Mr. Gilmer supported it, and the *Sentinel* justifies Mr. Gilmer. Now we ask sincerely did the *Sentinel* endorse the action of those men? How can it draw a distinction between Gilmer and Montgomery when they both voted the same way, and stood upon the same platform? The *Sentinel* says it "did take the ground that the Hon. J. A. Gilmer did right to vote against the Kansas fraud." The twenty-two anti-Lecompton democrats voted "against the Kansas fraud," if Mr. Gilmer was right, and the *Sentinel* says he was, how does it make his associates wrong for following his example? If one is endorsed, surely the others must be.

The *Sentinel* further has it, that "Mr. Gilmer saw the trick that the administration party was playing in striking out the only feature in the bill that the South was in favor of!" The *Sentinel* refers to Green's amendment. That amendment struck out nothing, but left the constitution precisely as it came to Congress. We admit however for the sake of argument that it did. What does the House bill propose? To send the constitution back to the people, that the Black Republicans may defeat it. It then gives the same Black Republicans the power to make an anti-slavery constitution—for be it remembered that the *Sentinel* says, that if the people of Kansas were allowed to alter the Lecompton Constitution, in "six months the slavery clause" would be stricken out, and without even the reviewing care of Congress to see if it conflicts with the constitution of the U. States, by a proclamation of the President, Kansas shall be admitted. If this is not a bill of abominations, we should like to know what is. Congress is the only power under the constitution privileged to admit new States, yet this bill delegates the power, we mistake—forces the President to admit Kansas whether she has a Republican constitution or not. This is the amendment that the *Sentinel* says is all it should be, and for which Mr. Gilmer voted.

We have another point with the *Sentinel*. If we rightly construe its article, that paper endorses the Lecompton constitution, minus Green's amendment. The administration "fraud" consisted in appending the amendment before referred to. Now we enquire, did not the *Sentinel* take ground against the Lecompton movement, sustain Douglas, and denounce the men in favor of admitting Kansas with her constitution as presented? If it did, which we think we can prove from its own columns, what has caused it to change ground? If it did, does it endorse the "action" of the twenty-two democrats who followed Douglas, denounced the administration, and opposed the admission of Kansas with the Lecompton constitution? The *Sentinel* took ground against Lecompton, so did these twenty-two democrats; we again ask, if one is unsound, how stands the other? The Black Republicans charge "fraud." Mr. Gilmer and the *Sentinel* charge fraud. Who can draw a distinction.

The Superior Court of Pasquotank county is now in session in this place, his Honor Judge Dick presiding. E. C. Hines Solicitor. There is one capital case on the docket, a negro, the property of Dr. R. K. Speed, accused of attempting to burn property. The State docket is unusually small.

**THE DEMOCRATIC BANNER.**—The Williamston Democratic Banner has changed hands. Mr. Augustus Moore, having disposed of the paper, it will hereafter be conducted by Mr. Wm. Brennan, who has purchased the establishment.

Our attentive correspondent, "Rip Slap" will accept our thanks for his early and interesting letters, communicating the proceedings of the Convention. His correspondence contained the only information received by Saturday night's mail.

**THE MORFRESBORO' CITIZEN** comes to us in a new dress, and much improved in its quantity of reading matter. Success to it.

**CONSECRATION.**—The new Episcopal Church in this Town will be consecrated the second Sunday in May, Bishop Atkinson officiating.

## [Correspondence of the Pioneer.]

Democratic State Convention—Tremendous outpouring of the Democracy—The "old First" represented—Temporary officers—Permanent officers—Rule of voting—Speeches—Committee on Resolutions, &c.

CHARLOTTE, April 14, 1858.  
Guess you'll be a little surprised to find "Rip Slap" away up here, but stranger things happen in a lifetime, and as I am here I propose to post you up as to the doings in Convention. There are a large number of delegates in attendance, and 70 counties are represented.—Among those unrepresented are the following from the old First: Camden, Hertford, Bartie Tyrrel, Perquimans, and Gates.  
Chowan sends J. C. Badham; Currituck, B. M. Easde, and — Fishaw; Northampton, John Jos. Long, H. K. Burgwyn, Jos. R. Mason, and John M. Moore; Halifax, Col. N. M. Long and J. F. Simmons; Martin, Aug. Moore, — Lanier, and Dr. Teal; Pasquotank and Washington both, J. C. Badham.

All are comfortably settled here, and the business of the Convention is going ahead finely. Capt. John Walker, of this place, was made temporary Chairman, and Geo. Howard and W. J. Yates, Secretaries. A Committee consisting of two from each Congressional District was appointed (the delegations making the selection). Messrs. Howard, Yates, and Messrs. H. K. Burgwyn and B. M. Baxter were appointed from the first. While the Committee were out, John Kerr was called upon and made one of the most eloquent and stirring speeches I have ever heard.

The Committee reported  
FOR PRESIDENT,  
GEN. C. M. AVERY, OF BURKE.  
FOR VICE PRESIDENTS:  
J. C. Badham, of Chowan,  
D. G. W. Ward, of Greene,  
J. A. McDowell, of Bladen,  
B. Trolinger, of Alamance,  
J. F. Hill, of Stokes,  
W. M. Matthews, of Mecklenburg,  
J. B. Gordon, of Wilkes.  
FOR SECRETARIES:  
Geo. Howard, of Wilson,  
J. W. Alsop, of Forsythe,  
W. F. Green, of Franklin.

The report was adopted, and the Convention adjourned till 2 o'clock this afternoon, at which time Gen. Avery was conducted to the Chair, and made acknowledgments in an appropriate manner.  
A resolution was adopted fixing the rule of voting, by the Democratic vote given by each county at the election for Governor in 1856.—That is, each County shall cast the number of votes in the Convention which it cast for Gov. Bragg in 1856. It is thought also, that the majority rule will be adopted to-morrow.

Speeches were made this afternoon by Hon. James W. Osborne, Gen. Walter L. Steele, Mr. Cox, of Edgecombe, Mr. Williams of Alamance, and others.  
The Committee on resolutions consists of three gentlemen from each Congressional District; and Col. N. M. Long, J. C. Badham and Jos. R. Mason, are the committee men from the first. The Committee are at work now and the Convention will meet to-night to receive their report.  
You shall have another letter to-morrow.  
In haste,  
RIP-SLAP.

**THE PLATFORM.**—Speech of Mr. Kerr—Nomination of Hon. John W. Ellis for Governor—Committee to inform Judge Ellis of his nomination—Concord and harmony, &c.

Having written you a letter, I will make this brief note in order that you may get it in your next issue, for I know it will reach you too late for insertion if too long.

First I will give you  
**THE PLATFORM.**  
WHEREAS, pursuant to the usage of the Democratic party, a Convention of delegates representing the different counties of the State, has assembled in the Town of Charlotte, it is deemed a proper occasion to express its opinions upon the different questions now before the people of the State and of the Country, at large: Be it therefore,  
Resolved, That we approve cordially of the administration of James Buchanan, believing it to be marked by ability, impartiality, and devotion to the Constitutional rights of all sections of the country, and more especially do we endorse his position in favor of the immediate admission of Kansas, under the Lecompton Constitution, and regard that measure as essential to the quiet of the country and an act of simple justice, the rejection of which can only be viewed as a blow aimed at the equality of States in the Union.

Resolved, That Thomas Bragg, by the manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office of Chief Magistrate of this State, has established a character for high executive talent and secured the confidence and respect of all good citizens of the State, and we hereby tender him in behalf of our constituents the expression of their high admiration and best wishes for his happiness and success through life.

Resolved, That we are anxious to see the resources of the different sections of the State fostered and developed; and to that end believe that such aid should be given towards the forwarding to completion of the works of Internal Improvement already begun and the construction of such others as may be deemed expedient, as the credit of the State and the means of her citizens may permit, without injuriously affecting the one or imposing onerous burdens on the other.

Resolved, That we regard the Distribution of the public lands or the proceeds thereof, as unconstitutional, anti-Democratic and impolitic, and its agitation at the present time as eminently unprudent, because being wholly impracticable, the sole tendency of such agitation must be to divide and distract the only party upon which the South can rely for the defence of her rights and interests in the Union.

Hon. John Kerr, Chairman of the Committee, made a very able speech on presenting the resolutions.  
Mr. Cox of Edgecombe, offered two resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, approving the votes of our Senators and Representatives for their course, and thanking the Southern Democrats who stood with them on the Kansas bill and condemning in strong terms those Southern members who opposed the Lecompton Constitution.

Hon. Jao. W. Ellis was nominated for Governor, and on motion of Mr. M. A. Bledsoe, of Wake, the nomination was made unanimous.  
Messrs. Simmons of Halifax, Lewis of Wake, and Thomas of Cherokee, were appointed to inform Judge Ellis of his nomination and request his acceptance.

I am very happy to say a pleasant and beautiful spirit of concord and harmony prevailed, and all pledged themselves to work heartily for the nomination.

The prominent matters I have given you, not having time to go into detail.

In haste,  
RIP-SLAP.

**WAGGERT.**—Some time ago, on the Sabbath day, we wended our way to one of our churches, and instead of a sermon heard an address upon some missionary or other benevolent subject. After the address was concluded two brethren were sent round with the baskets for contributions. Parson L., who was one of the basket bearers taking the side upon which we sat. Immediately in our front and upon the next seat negligently reclined our friend Bill H., a gentleman of infinite humor and full of dry jokes. Parson L. extended the basket and Bill slowly shook his head.

"Come, William, give us something," said the Parson.

"Can't do it," replied Bill.

"Why not? Is not the cause a good one?"

"Yes, but I'm not able to give anything."

"Poh! Poh! I know better, you must give a better reason than that."

"Well, I owe too much money—I must be just before I am generous, you know."

"But William, you owe God a larger debt than you owe any one else."

"That's true, Parson, but then he aint pushing me like the balance of my creditors."

"The Parson's face got into rather a serious condition and he passed on."

## THE CLOSING EXERCISES OF MR. ALLEN'S SINGING SCHOOL.

MR. EDITOR: Mr. Allen closed the exercises of his Singing School at Providence on the evening of the 7th inst.

We think it due Mr. A., and the young ladies and gentlemen composing his class, that some notice should be made of the same—not merely as complimentary, but by way of encouragement to others, who may feel inclined, yet hesitate, to unite in so pleasing, dignified and important an exercise. We have not heard an expression on the part of any of the audience—but we will venture the assertion, that the good people in the vicinity of Providence were never more highly gratified at any performance of the kind.

The closing exercises commenced about 8, and lasted until 10 o'clock, P. M.—During this interval quite a programme of interesting and beautiful Church harmonies were elegantly sung. Several pretty solos, duets, trios, and fugue pieces, were rehearsed with fine skill—all of which were admirably calculated to impress the listeners with the rapid and great attainments of the Class.—A friend by the way suggests, that the performance could not be surpassed anywhere—and besides, that he was very permanently impressed that Providence could not be easily excelled in pretty girls.—The suggestion is a good one. The ladies did appear really beautiful, and added immeasurably to the brilliancy of the occasion. "Muller est hominis confusio," the truth of which is verified by the fact, that one young gentleman from the City was so bewildered, moon-struck, or otherwise confused, as not to be able to find his way hither. He was seen just before the exercises closed, but has not been seen or heard from since.

As this School is the first of the kind they have ever had at Providence, certainly much credit is due both the teacher and the pupils. The facility with which the Class can read the notes, the readiness with which they time their music, together with the consonant blending of their voices—all clearly manifest, that they have been truly interested; and enlisted not in the amusement, as is often the case with many young ladies and gentlemen, merely "to be in company," and thus to spend their time in trivial, light-hearted and light-headed jest and fun; but with the express view to laboring to be profited. Herein their laudable purpose has in an eminent degree been realized individually—but not entirely satisfactorily. The members of the class, therefore, are incited to further exertions; and propose to reunite and form another class for another series of lessons. They hope, also, to be able to avail themselves of the services of Mr. A. as their guide. We express the hope, that he may yield to their wishes. He is eminently qualified to instruct them thoroughly—and we feel assured that the degree of order and discipline, to which he will accustom them in another series of lessons, will enable them to attain much excellence in the art.

We would here beg to plead with the members of the class individually to endeavor to induce all the young folks of the vicinity to unite with them in this pleasing exercise. Evidently they will never regret it—but may have really a good time.

We insist on this not only from the fact, that we are exceedingly fond of good music, and desire to see general and high attainments in the same; but also, because its claims upon a community are pre-eminently great—and every effort tending to promote its culture, is well-befitting the most intelligent, refined and enterprising people.

W.  
APRIL 9th, 1858.

## KANSAS IN THE HOUSE.

The Washington Union of Friday last says:

"The House again took action on the Kansas bill yesterday. The question came up on the Senate's non-concurrence in the House amendment. It was moved by the opposition to adhere to their own bill, and the motion was carried by precisely the same vote which was cast a week before on amending the Senate bill. It was but a reiteration of the previous action of the House; it is neither a step forward nor backward. The question stands precisely this morning where it stood yesterday morning. We have no commentary on the present state of the question other than we have had on it as it has stood for a week past."

The next step in the programme will be a call for a committee of conference. This call will proceed from the Senate, and we shall have another test vote in the House in response to that call. If the House refuse a committee, there will be an end of the question, and the bill will fall. If the House agree to a conference, then there will be ground to expect a speedy adoption of the views of the Senate.

The chances are that the bill will fall—indeed, it appears to be almost certain that it will.

The latest intelligence from Kansas is as follows:

Later from Kansas.

St. Louis, April 8.—The Kansas constitutional convention has adjourned. Negroes and foreigners having declared their intention of becoming permanent residents of the State are to be allowed to vote for the constitution—the question of universal suffrage to be voted upon at the next general election thereafter. The proposition to allow negroes to vote caused a very angry discussion in the convention, and several counter-signed the constitution under protest.

This, then, is the new Constitution for which Lecompton has been set aside—abolition and negro suffrage! Will Mr. Gilmer swallow that? As a matter of course, if Lecompton should pass with the Crittenden Montgomery amendment, the black Republicans would vote it down, and if it should not pass, this negro suffrage Constitution will at once come up. The blacks in Congress, we do not doubt, would gladly vote for it; but what would Mr. Gilmer do? Perhaps if Mr. Giddings would kiss him two or three times more he might induce him to go for even this. "Kiss him, Giddings!"—*Rail Standard*.

## ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN CUBA.

The news by the America is pregnant with importance. The gravest fact it contains is one which seemed so significant to the telegraphic agent that it escaped his attention altogether, and we were compelled to wait the more voluminous report of our northern contemporaries to place it before our readers. We refer to the fact that the Spanish Ministry have introduced a project for the abolition of slavery in all the colonies of Spain. This is the consummation to which British diplomacy has looked, and to which it has directed its tremendous energies for so many years.—The probability of its success in the Cortez is not stated, and we await further information to satisfy ourselves of the exact condition of the effort. We cannot forbear, however, to say, that such a step would hardly be taken by ministers, without carefully weighing its prospects. Its proposal alone, unless a tub thrown to the English whale, is almost conclusive evidence of its adoption.

Unfortunately, this dangerous topic comes upon us, if it should come, in the worst possible circumstances for fair investigation and prompt action by the American people. Kansas and its desperate crew of mefactors and treason-mongers, has embittered the sentiment of sectional hostility, and so misled the popular mind, that it is almost impossible to get before the attention of the American people the unbiased view of the subject necessary for unanimous action. Unfortunately, too, the same painful and disorganizing subject has so clogged the wheels of legislation that we despair of seeing the car of State move on in its legitimate path. And yet, this subject must press itself on the American mind.

That the Southern people can ever consent, that the American people should ever consent to see Cuba, in a stone's throw of our Coast, the key of the Gulf, the salient point of military movement, as well as the convenient magazine of incendiaryism converted into another San Domingo, is what we would not believe.

We have been, time and again, disappointed—we have, time and again, seen Southern men, with just position enough to defeat the unanimous sentiment of those they represent, stand in the way of the hopes of the South, even on questions involving her safety, her honor and her integrity. It requires no deep research into a remote and almost forgotten past, to find such instances and such men. The events are current, and the men stand marked by the reproach with which an outraged people rebuke them daily. Yet an Southern opinion divide on such a subject as this? A question in which the safety of their homes and hearts is threatened by dangers from which the mind insensibly shrinks with horror.

We have freely and boldly expressed ourselves on the subject of filibusterism—opposing it and rebuking it without fear or favour. We, under all circumstances below the exactions of a terrible necessity, would uphold the laws of the land; but such a prospect as this, with its results so gloomily foreshadowed, appeal to that sense of self preservation which overrides all law, and justifies any people in disregarding the restraints with which legal enactments control their remedy.

Should Spain abolish slavery in Cuba, we believe the Southern people would be justified in disregarding the neutrality laws. This was one of the events we contemplated in claiming it as absolutely essential that power over these laws should be lodged in the hands of the President.

Inevitably, as night follows day, should slavery be abolished there, the Revolutionary sentiment so long prevalent in Cuba, but so long watched by a sleepless and vindictive vigilance, would burst forth with renewed vigor, and Spain be compelled to measure arms with her most prosperous colony. In that event and on such an issue, the neutrality laws would be fruitless of results, except, perhaps, the painful one of alienating still further the mind of a proud people, who have learned from the Kansas and other questions, that they are already regarded by a large class of their fellow citizens at the North as sunk in the scale of Confederacy.

We earnestly ask the attention of Southern men especially, because they have most to lose, but of all men who profess to have a proper regard for the interests of the Confederacy, to join promptly in the first step necessary to meet the coming danger, by suspending the neutrality laws at once, or at least, entrusting to the tried and faithful man who was the choice of the people for their highest place, a power which would be harmless in judicious hands, but the absence of which may invite, or hasten, or enforce results which shock every true patriot to think of, and make true philanthropy glow pale.

South-Side Democrat.

MR. MILLER'S LETTER.—Below will be found a letter which appeared in the Raleigh Standard of the 7th inst., written by Henry W. Miller, Esq., to a private citizen of that City, whose name has been withheld from the public.

All of our readers are familiar with the name of Mr. Miller and have long known him to be one of the most rabid old-line Whigs in the State. But Mr. M. loves the interest of his own State and the rights of the South too dearly to join in the hue and cry of South American old line Whig editors, orators and stump speakers against the Administration of Buchanan, or the efforts of the National Democratic party, on the success of which depends the preservation of Southern Rights and the safety of the Union. In speaking of the Democratic party he says: "The dissolution of that party, especially at this time, I should regard as a National calamity."

We ask not only our political friends, but also those of the opposition, to carefully consider these sentiments which emanate from so high a source as Mr. Miller, and one who has so long and ably battled against the democracy. We ask our opposition friends to compare his sentiment and his course with Gilmer's of North Carolina, Bell's of Tennessee, Crittenden's of Kentucky, and other "South Americans" who lately betrayed the rights and interests of the South, by their speeches and votes in Congress, into the hands of her enemies at the North, the Black Republicans, taking sides with them, thereby aiding to defeat the Kansas Bill. We call upon them to come out like men as they

old associate has done, and say with him, "its dissolution would be a national calamity." We are sorry that some of the papers in the South in North Carolina, are zealous in their praises to Gilmer, Crittenden, and to other traitors to her rights, shows much exaltation on the subject of Administration measures as do the abolitionists North. But we know that there are men of the party too high minded, too patriotic, to sustain the course of Southern renegades, and who, as they will stand firm in the measure which involves their own and the safety of the Union.

Fayetteville Carol.

## THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF KANSAS.

If any thing illustrated more than the importance to the entire Union independent of any claims the State has for justice, in the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, the complication which the delay in creating through the revolutionary times which are winked at in the case of the House. While the House sits on the question which has its bad importance from the presence of Topeka Constitution and those sworn by it as embodying the spirit of Kansas, the same rabble from Topeka were manufacturing a constitution to raise another difficulty, the allies of discord and confusion purposes of wrong. Their object is to carry to the polls in 1860, with fearful dangers. No sane man doubts this who knows anything of the history of the Kansas troubles. But not overshoot the mark. Can any men hesitate longer, and partnership of injury and loss South, when the fruits of their turns out to be what the last Kansas proves?—Not only a basis of simple declaration, but a pure and unadulterated fraud—is the new card of the party, to which they have sworn allegiance. We do not believe in Davis, even, can stand this rate, we expect to see him shake his head at the others, is there any doubt?

We repeat—we shall be disappointed if, after this, Lecompton hang any longer in the House.

Petersburg Va.

MR. EDITOR: It was with deep regret that I saw in your paper, this account of a "Destructive fire in City, N. C." I regret this on two accounts. It was the first Town within four miles of it I was born in. The "Fork" I first went to school at. Frederick Sawyer, of Horryton, were my first teachers. There my lamented father first met and married. My mother, I am Messinger, Mrs. Carter. Thomas Cobb, these are the first names I ever heard.

It was there I learned to read, and there I helped to build houses. I am sorry that this Town should be so afflicted. And then my father's friends and my relatives are there; and my brethren are there. And I am so sorry on this account.

Oh, there are many more who I am sorry, truly sorry, to hear of. Most sincerely tender all the sincere sympathies. Were I in I would afford them material assistance as it is not, "I can give I unto them." I would have them all to "lay up for themselves treasures in Heaven, where neither rust nor moth corrupt, nor their store will fail."

Behold, dear friends, in this taint, of all worldly possessions, make to themselves such a store as an eagle towards Heaven? O turn to God. With faith heart, turn to him. Go to his feet, confess your sins and iniquities through our crucified and risen Saviour. He will hear, and save you. It is a great financial crisis has been to the good, the great good of City, and our country. Why is this be over ruled to your good, bless you, and help you all with full purpose of heart.

Our town, is at this time with a most powerful work of among all denominations. Prayers are held, in all the churches at sun rise, at 10, at 12, at 4. Services in nearly all of them. Many have been converted. Many are crying for mercy. Fear and conditions we see them in the house of God. It is the will of God, that we should be O humble yourselves under the hand of God, and He will lift you up in hope of eternal life. I am, J. L. PIERCE.

The Kansas correspondence of the Pioneer says that the following for county officers was voted at cent election.

- FREE, AND INDEPENDENT
- "Mail Columbia, Fayetteville"
- For Probate Judge, FRBD DOUGLAS
- For Sheriff, HENRY WARD BEECH
- For Recorder of Deeds, AUNT BECK
- For Treasurer, KILBUCK (Indiana)
- For Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, NORA MCKENNA
- For Coroner, BULLY BROOKS (Lancaster)
- For County Attorney, HORACE GREELEY, of New York
- For County Surveyor, MISS LUCY STONE







